



The Trail Blazer

OFFICIAL ORGAN METROPOLITAN HORSEMAN'S ASSOCIATION · OAKLAND, CALIF.

Volume 7

MARCH, 1947

Number 2

FEBRUARY ADDITIONS TO THE M H A MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

RENEWALS: Fred E. Anderson, C. C. Adcox, Kenneth Ainsworth, Mildred Ainsworth, Bob Anderson, Marguerite Brewer, Arch Brown, Opal Brown, Virginia Brown, Dr. E. J. Campbell, Stanley Cosca, Florence Cosca, Lloyd E. Derusha, Althea Dorsey, Dr. Galen Drury, George Floyd, Henry Gede, "A" Ray Graham, Arthur Hatch, Meredith Harris, John B. Henry, Agnes Jaeger, Joe Jaeger, Elaine Johnson, Elaine Jones Frank Landucci, Dr. E. G. Le Donne, Eunice Little, J. L. Martin, Henry C. Matthews, Joe V. Medaglia, Mr. G. W. Miller, Mrs. G. W. Miller, Verne Mishler, Cecil Moore, Mrs. Lloyd Mulford, James A. Myers, Mrs. James A. Myers, M/Sgt. Roy E. Nordstrom, Willis Nuttall, James Ormond, Kay Osborne, William R. Osborne, A. R. Palmer, James Paps, Joan Regan, Dr. J. Elliott Royer, A. J. Schaakey, Pat Shell, Ted Sibert, Guy Skelton, Ray L. Theobald, B. W. Theobald, H. L. Thompson, Mrs. H. L. Thompson, C. R. Tisher, Rodney A. Williams, Bob White, Judy White, Edith Woodward.

NEW MEMBERS: Richard Banfield, Dr. Wilfred S. Bentham, Walter Blument, L. C. Bondy, Patty Brooks, William A. Burgess, James Butterfield, C. Merritt Howell, Myrtle Cowell, John Frates, Dean Giles, Milt Grau, Mildred Grininger, Roy Grininger, Edward Hartman, Claire M. Johnson, Andrew J. Leonhardt, Frank V. Mello, Jr., Benjamin Minor, Isabelle Mishler, Lorraine Nelson, Mrs. Rina Paps, Stoney Pierce, Roy Robinson, Mrs. Roy Robinson, Larry Robinow, John Morris Ross, Harold Ryer, Jr., Ralph Joseph Santos, Delphine Sibert, W. J. Susan, W. C. Urch, Rudy Washburn, Bill Welch, Mary E. Wilkes.

JUNIORS: Betty Jane Bloom, Virginia Casha, Bonnie Jean Christie, Joyce Cosca, Loretta Cosca, Barbara Dorsey, Jackie Feinberg, Kenneth Giles, Paulene Grininger, Uvada Jean Hamblin, Betty Lambert, Lorraine Landucci, Mollie Mulford, Patsy Nuttall, Betty Richert, Pat Ruckavina, Bee Sweet, Donald Sibert, Paul Sibert, Richard Sibert, Robert Sibert, Ted Sibert, Jr., Cookie Robinson, Dick Robinson.

NOTICE TO THOSE WHO HAVE NOT RENEWED MEMBERSHIPS:
Your membership has expired. This will be your last issue of the Trail Blazer unless we receive your renewal !

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| Fred E. Anderson | Publisher |
| 375-377 - 11th St., Oakland 7, CA 3560 | |
| Mary Gale | Secretary |
| 6053 Chabot Road, Oakland, CA 2536 | |

NEXT MEETING

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



DATE: Thursday, March 6, 1947

TIME: 8:00 P. M.

PLACE: Thrift Federal Savings & Loan
Association, 1706 Franklin Street, Oak-
land, California.

ATTENTION

COPY FOR THE TRAIL BLAZER SHOULD
BE MAILED TO:

Blanche Paul, Editor
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VISION.

YOUR EDITOR HAS A WORD TO SAY

We of the Trail Blazer staff want to give you a better Trail Blazer in 1947 than ever before. To do that, we have increased our staff, but that alone isn't enough. We need the cooperation of every individual member of our organization.

The backbone of a publication of this kind, like that of a small town Weekly, is personal news, news about each of you and your horses. Have you wondered why John Boopadoon's name appears in practically every issue and Dick Suchandsuch's name has never appeared? Here's why!

There is a lot of work to do in getting out this little magazine, and for a long time Elena Lagorio did it practically singlehanded. Personally, I don't know how she managed it plus a full time job of her own. You owe her a debt of gratitude for keeping the Trail Blazer alive when nobody else seemed to have the time.

There is a lot of work to do besides collecting the news. Copy that comes in must be edited, and typed (if it isn't already) for the printer. After the linotype operator puts it in print, it must be proof-read for typographical errors. The ads must be rearranged each month to give advertisers an even break.

Vern Chappell is giving many hours of his time each week to secure ads for the Blazer, and to collect them. Don Marquis, even with his added responsibilities, finds time to bring in many ads. We call Don's personal auto company ads our "rubber copy," for when we are short two, four, or more inches, he lets us increase his ad accordingly and smilingly pays the difference.

Because of all the mechanical work necessary in getting out your magazine, we on the Trail Blazer staff haven't had time to call all members, all stables for news. We have had to depend on the people who send in material.

Let's make that a different story this year. Let's have news about each and every M.H.A. member during 1947. The Trail Blazer can only be as good as you members make it.

New Members of the Trail Blazer staff who have kindly agreed to help us accomplish this, and the stables and organizations they have agreed to cover are:

Mrs. Teen Cosca, Lari-ettes, KE 2-7934; C. Merritt Cowell, Alameda Sheriff's Posse, LA 2-9328; Dr. Galen Drury, Aahmes Shrine Rangers, HI 1124; Mrs. Jean Evans, Don Evans Stables KE 2-9936; Mrs. Elizabeth Frampton, Private Stables, KE 2-4010; Earl Hansen, Leona Stables, SW 4643; Miss Mary Lou Hutton, Cressmount Stables, HI 8506; Miss Pearl Leibl, Pinto Ranch, Wagon Wheel Ranch KE 3-3704; Miss Doris Matthews, Hidden Valley Stables, TR 9570; Mrs. May Murray, Green Barn, AN 1322; Miss Dolly Nielsen, Junior Members, AN 4796; Mrs. Kay Osborne, Oakland Stable, OL 8258; Mrs. Virginia Patten, Piedmont Stables, Diamond B Ranch, AN 4148; Miss Selma Piazzzi, Arlington Stables, HU 3176; Mrs. Margery Tobey, Big Bear Stables, Wildwood Stables, Miss Graham's Stables, Boots and Jeans, KE 2-7102; Joe Young, Redwood Stables, AN 1547.

Your reporters are a grand, enthusiastic group. Fifteen of them came to a meeting at my home, Tuesday evening, February 4, and I'm sure from their response that you can count on them to do a fine job. Help them by phoning or telling them news of yourselves and horses.

—Blanche Paul, KELlog 2-3537

SOCIAL EVENTS PLANNED

The Activities Committee, called to order by chairman Archie Brown, held its first meeting of the year Monday, February 2, at the Pinto Ranch club house. Those attending were: Stanley Cosca, Harold Cummins, Bill Patten, Jim Black, Don Evans, Vern Chappell, and Elsa and Gus Himmelman.

President Don Marquis sat in at the meeting and by the time all that group of Western riders got through with him, he had purchased a Western saddle and promised to enter the roping events in our horse show later in the year.

Barn Dance

Activities for the coming year were discussed at length. Our first event will be a Barn Dance to be held at the Tourist Club on Saturday evening, March 1. Stanley Cosca was appointed chairman in charge of this party. Stan plans to have a real Cowboy Band that will give out with Western swing music. Door prizes will be given and coffee and doughnuts served free with the admission price of \$1.50 each.

This dance will be scheduled as our February event although it does fall on March 1. Post cards announcing the event will be mailed to all members and tickets will be sold at the various barns.

AN OPEN FORUM

An important milestone in M.H.A. events is planned for March 25. That is the date set aside for our first quarterly meeting of the entire inmembership. It will be held in the Woodminster Amphi-theatre building on Joaquin Miller road.

The meeting will be called to order at 8 p.m. It is designed as an open forum, a combined meeting of the directors and the entire membership. We hope all members will attend and enter into the open discussion.

Quarterly meetings are one of President Marquis' pet ideas. He is very sincere in planning them to give everyone equal representation and a chance to freely express himself so that plans may be laid to accomplish, this year, those things most desired by the membership at large.

There will also be entertainment and the usual coffee and doughnuts.

Wanted: Information as to the whereabouts of all musical talent hidden away amongst M.H.A. members. Don't be bashful! Whether you play a harmonica or a big bass viol, or sing a mean baritone, please contact Archie Brown.

The Activities committee passed a motion recommending that the Trail Blazer appeal to all musical talent to make itself known so that at future entertainments and dances we can use some of our own talent. Let us hear from you, and you.

A "CHRISTENING"

On Sunday, January 26, Mr. and Mrs. Cal Tisher hosted a cocktail and buffet party, at the Bonita ranch, in honor of their three-year-old palomino filly. The party was carried out in the form of a "horse christening" and the filly duly baptized Duchess Maria, her sponsors being Bobby Santos and Ray Ferrario. A crowd of fifty persons or more witnessed the ceremony as "Father Ferrario" sprinkled her head with wine and pronounced her Duchess Maria.

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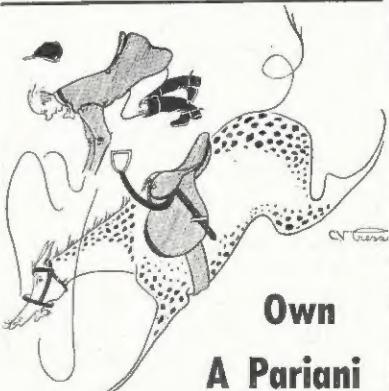
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Armetta Maxwell is back in the saddle again. The reason for her vacation from riding can be explained by her handsome baby boy, Kerry, who is now six months old. The Maxwells recently brought their black saddlebred mare in from pasture, so both Armetta and "Brick," riding Lady and Rebel, a dark, bay Morgan gelding, will again be seen on the trails.

Seldom a day goes by, rain or shine, hail, sleet or snow, but what Jean Finney and her palomino horse, Sandy, together with her faithful Labrador dog, Buz, can be seen traveling to or from the Green Barn. Pete Little is another regular rider, on his chestnut, Modoc.

Albert S. Weaver recently acquired a palomino gelding, Golden Boy, who makes a nice appearance and travels with style under his handling. Mr. Weaver is busy dividing his affections between this new horse and his bay gelding, Button.

Mr. and Mrs. George Daniels are as faithful as ever with their horses. George's standard bred gelding, Bronze Leaf, is so spirited that he comes in after a long trip with that "let's go again" appearance. Mrs. Daniels' Billy and Dottie Lou are never far behind, but it is dear old Tommy, the patriarch of the Daniels' herd, that commands the affection of all at the Green Barn.

Edith Roberts recently took her mare, Duchess, to the ranch and brought her beautiful young chestnut gelding, Tommy High, a son of Duchess, into the stable. She is doing a nice job in educating him in the ways of being a good trail horse.

Roy Fefley is East on business and his horse, Nugget, is vacationing in Contra Costa County. Mrs. Dahl's mount, Monty, is also resting while his owner is a sojourner in the southwest. Martin and May Murray are seen on weekends riding their palominos, Duchess and Frosty.

Joe Huber, owner of the Green Barn, shows a profound understanding of horses. It seems as though he speaks their language. If a horse appears nervous, a word from Jo brings him to calm. Jo has had many years of experience in handling horses, his major interest and accomplishment being the successful training and driving of trotters and pacers. Some of his memories of the great trotting horses he has handled and known would, no doubt, make good reading for horse lovers.

MISS GRAHAM'S STABLE ITEMS

Mr. and Mrs. Harrison Davis have a new palomino gelding, named Royal, that they are stabling at Miss Graham's Riding and Boarding stables. They purchased him and had him shipped here from Nevada.

Betty, Ross, who also stables at Miss Graham's, recently sold her mare, Lady, and is planning to buy a larger mount.

ALAMEDA SHERIFF'S POSSE**ELECT OFFICERS**

With the recent reorganization of the Alameda Sheriff's Posse, E. J. Carey became the new captain. Art Palmer is the first lieutenant and corresponding secretary. The two second lieutenants are: Archie Brown, and Rod Williams. The posse will be a part of the St. Patrick's day parade, March 16, in San Francisco. The twenty-six members are drilling every other Sunday in Jimmie Myers' ring on Mountain Boulevard in preparation for this and other 1947 events.

COW PALACE TO FEATURE CRESSMOUNT'S "SHONGEHON DRILL"

Last month Mr. G. N. Keyston stopped in at Cressmount to chat about the Junior Show at the Cow Palace which is scheduled during Easter Vacation. He extended a special invitation to Shongehon to be one of the "two" groups asked to give an exhibition drill during the 4H show. The girls will ride Saturday evening, March 29th, and Sunday afternoon, March 30th.

A class in jumping is held, each Sunday morning, at Cressmount Stables, under the instruction of Miss Cornelia Cress. This is a class for adults and will include "cubing" and cross country rides in the spring. Among those who spend their Sundays in this sport are: Mary Gale, Winifred Johnson, Bud Bahnsen, Bob White, Flo de Bonis, Phil Johnson, Lorraine Harris, and Don Schwimley.

The Junior Shongehon held a picnic ride around the loop the end of January. Riders were Sheila Drieg, Jane Garfield, Linell Powers, Virginia Gerke, Happy Clemens, Charlotte Lochner, Beverly Cron, Wilda Rosendahl, Sandra Rosendahl, Dorothy Hayes, Pat Bryan, Joyce Williams, Carolee Jory and Beverly Hastings.

The Bit and Spur Club had an enjoyable ride through Redwood Canyon and Sunset Trail after their return to Mills College classes. There were riders from Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, Illinois, and many other states, who found the trails inviting and expressed surprise that the hills were flooded with sunshine in midwinter. March 23 is the date set for their annual Bit and Spur Horse Show.

On Saturday, February 8, Miss Cornelia Cress served a buffet supper to members of Shongehon who met at her home for a reorganization.

The Upson Downs Club is planning a Gymkhana; the date will be announced soon. Pegasus Patrol held their Gymkhana on Wednesday, February 12, at 4 p.m. There were teams of four, pot luck pairs, relays, and a game called Red Rover. The mothers of this under-12-years-of-age group donated the prize ribbons.

Barbara Bechtel is on her way to Arabia. The owner of the Thoroughbred hunter, Sun Truder, telephoned from London to have her riding clothes, gold stock pin, stock and derby sent to her by air—she wishes to go riding while in London.

Mr. and Mrs. Olaf Obergard have returned to the Cressmount Stables to ride their favorite mounts on Thursday evenings.

Bourbon and Adobe are back in the fold of Cressmount after a sojourn in the pastures. They are getting into condition for riding—Adobe has not lost his disposition.

Our friends, Alice Wittenberg and Elizabeth Shand, are on their 160-acre ranch in St. Helena. Elizabeth is interested in breeding horses and, on the side, she has time to take care of fourteen cows and a lot of chickens—at least there must be these beasts and birds at the farm, for on Saturday mornings all the riders of Cressmount gather around a car laden with fresh cream and eggs—yes, they have a list of regular customers. This is one way to make horse raising profitable, they say.

Barbara Decker has brought her American saddlebred, Southern Scandal, to Cressmount. Stanley Moore is keeping Merlin MacDonald at Cressmount, as well as Billy Doon.

Lloyd Mulford

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Zib Harrison is recovering from her recent injury. She is in Sacramento and will soon be back in the saddle again. You just can't keep an expert horsewoman down!

Peter Lert, after completing his work at the University, has been taking care of the horses of Lt. and Mrs. Alexander Wilson at Cupertino. They are thoroughbreds, Culpepper, a chestnut gelding, and Rita's Sweep, a gray mare; and Peter's horse, Jack, a black gelding which he is training.

OPEN HOUSE AT REDWOOD

Joe Young is planning a series of "open house" activities at the Redwood Stable. The first to be held some Sunday soon will be a jumping exhibition. There will be events for both beginners and advanced class jumpers. Everyone is invited. There will be no admission charge. Small prizes will be awarded winners. Get those jumpers ready, people, and contact Joe Young for further information. On following Sundays, Joe plans a special day for stock horses, English pleasure horses and others.

NEW OFFICERS FOR THE RANGERS

On January 21st Fred Anderson, outgoing President, surrendered the gavel to Henry Gede, newly elected President of the Ahmes Shrine Rangers. Dr. Galen Drury was elected Vice-President; Dave Jones, Treasurer; Bill Ludolph, Secretary; Frank Kelly, Ted Dryer and Al Upton are the new Directors.

In recognition of his outstanding achievements during the past year, Fred Bernis was unanimously re-elected Captain of the drill team. Fred already has an impressive list of activities outlined for the coming year and undoubtedly the Rangers will be kept busy. The regular drill practice has now been resumed, but the Rangers were not idle during the short holiday vacation; all went for long regular rides to keep their horses in condition. Weather does not bother the Rangers for seen recently in a driving rain on the Stream Trail were Fred Anderson, Frank Kelly, Dr. Campbell and Si Simons.

Buffet refreshments are the order of the day on late Sunday afternoons.

Fred Anderson, in turning over the gavel to Henry Gede, outlined the accomplishments of the Club during the past year and one of the major activities under his leadership was the continued active support of the Metropolitan Horsemen's Association and his work in preserving the old trails and making new ones through the hills.

LEONA RIDERS HOLD PARTY

The Leona Riders met at Sequoia Lodge on January 24 where Scotty Black had built a glowing fire in the grate. Martin Murray called the meeting to order; Pearl Palmer read the minutes and treasurer's report; and the group tried out their wits on some questions and answers. Elsie Mesquita, Lee Fowler, and Katherine Palmer were the quiz masters and had the group stumped a number of times. Archie Brown was clearly the champion—having been able to identify a "Lasock." Bill Nuttall gave a discussion of the Forward Seat, which was well prepared and delivered. Archie Brown brought his motion pictures and the crowd enjoyed his cross-country scenes, and rodeo snaps.

Refreshments brought the friends around the fireplace to catch up on "horse talk." The meeting ended in dancing to Bill Nuttall's public address

and Earl Hansen's records. Mrs. M. Murray, Mrs. A. Brown, Mrs. L. Studley, Mrs. A. Palmer, and Norma Burton acted as hostesses.

A breakfast ride is planned for Sunday morning, March 2, when the Leona Riders and their guests will ride into Cary's Canyon and stop over at the Club House for a feed. Miss B. Santos, Mrs. L. Studley, Mrs. M. Waldren, and Mr. R. Ferreira are the committee.

NEWS FROM THE PIEDMONT STABLES

Another successful breakfast was held for the Piedmont boarders at the Round-Up on January 19. Ginnie Patten and Jimmy Black both celebrated their birthdays during January. The Pattens were guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Bakke for a birthday dinner January 22, and Jimmy was the guest of honor January 27 at his home. Mr. and Mrs. Stan Cosca, Loretta and Joyce Cosca, and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Patten completed the party. Tiny Black, hostess, served a lovely birthday cake and ice cream. "Happy Birthday" was sung by Binkie Black, accompanied on the piano by his brother, Butch.

Ro and Al Foster are moving to Camino soon, taking their two horses, King Arthur and Sir Douglas with them. Russ Ivy is a new boarder with his mare, Mousey, and her colt. Art Hill, who purchased the grand champion palomino at the recent Denver Stock show, is now stabling him at the Piedmont. The horse, Cobbler, is registered both in the Palomino and the Quarter Horse associations.

Joyce Galeno is the proud new owner of Skeeter, a bay gelding formerly owned by Al Martin. Speaking of Al, he is vacationing in Tucson, Arizona, and enjoying the American Quarter Horse show.

Miss Bobbie De Vebiss shipped her Tennessee Walking horse from Mississippi and is now boarding him at Piedmont. Margaret Eppse has been quite ill but will soon be riding Taffy again.

Jimmy Black is making great progress with Bobbie, Nate Fairbairn's pinto, in his repertoire of tricks.

WAGON WHEEL RANCH NEWS

Twenty-five to thirty members of a riding club from Oak Knoll hospital go for a one or two hour ride one night each week from the Wagon Wheel ranch. They are guided by Bruce Arcutt, who owns the rent horses. After the ride, a barbecue is held at the ranch or down in the canyon.

One of the faithful rent horses surprised members of the ranch recently by having a bay colt with blaze and two white socks. Three additional members were added to the ranch family by the shepherd dog. The male has been promised to Butch Black, the two females are still unclaimed.

Gloria Isola, who operates a hot dog stand at the ranch, has coffee and chili beans to warm up riders on Saturdays and Sundays.

Mr. Uhlig, owner of the Wagon Wheel, has been laid up due to a sprained back.

BOOTS AND JEANS PARTY

On February 12, the Boots and Jeans club held a dance at the Big Bear Tavern in Redwood Canyon. A crowd of approximately 350 attended, with the S. L. Horsemen, Piedmont, and Lari-ettes well represented. Prizes were conducted by Jack Tann. "Lucky" Bowers, president of the organization, will hold election of Officers in March.

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Call Geneva Menicucci, your Committee Chairman in charge of all Humane Activities for 1947 or any of the following committee members: Margo Black, Tiny Black, Florence Cosca, Carmel Himmelman, Elsa Himmelman, Gus Himmelman, Agnes Jaeger, Virginia Patten, Mary Richards, Bobby Santos, and Kay Walling.

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PINTO RANCH NEWS

There are several new horses being boarded at the Pinto Ranch. Paul Waldron has his horse, Snuffy, back at the ranch again. Mark Temme has his palomino stallion, Pal; Phyllis Newmyer has a new horse; C. B. Carlo owns a black mare, Queen; Harold Pickering boards a new buckskin called Thunder. Mr. Cowen recently purchased a bay gelding from Harry Menicucci. West Childers, the Christmas tree man, bought a buckskin and a bay gelding from Sierra Valley, and A. L. Corvi has a sorrel mare at the Pinto.

Don Donlin recently received a new roping saddle. The Pinto Ranch has two new horse trailers built to order by Bill McManus and Allen Wilkie. Dr. Malcolm Hoddon is back from the army and riding his paint horse, Dick. Joe and Agnes Jaeger have a new home with stables for their two palomino horses, Lassie and Lady, located near the Sequoia Golf course. Frank McWhoter, who works for Jim Myers, is back from a Texas vacation.

Danny Street had an accident while riding and suffered a broken arm. He is being given a surprise party at the Pinto Ranch on the twenty-second. Meredith Harris had a birthday on the fourteenth of February. Pearl Leibl's colt, Keeno, is coming along beautifully. He is now being ridden bareback with a halter for about fifteen minutes in the ring daily.

A real surprise is Mrs. Judy White riding English on a new Pariani saddle these days. Lillian Andrews also is sporting a new Pariani.

HIDDEN VALLEY STABLES NEWS

Buck Matthews just brought his stallion colt, Sir Echo in from Lafayette. He also trailered Skipper, a chestnut gelding who belongs to his sister, Doris Matthews. Henry Matthews recently purchased a lovely strawberry roan filly, a two-year-old with fine conformation.

Several horse enthusiasts have been attending parties in the Hidden Valley Stables rumpus room lately. Among them are: Dick Coleman, Don Bianchi, Gene Mencarelli, Mel Sevey, Weezer Davis, Velma Sevey, Laverne Mencarelli, Rocco Mencarelli, Yvonne Vollerga, Jack Roeber, Bill and Fred Eklund, Bill Welch and Dick Banfield. Mr. Matthews plans to organize a club for his fellow horsemen in the near future.

Weezer Davis was recently thrown from a horse out at Hayward and injured. Several bones in his foot were broken. Bill Welch held a breakfast ride Sunday, February 2, for a group of boys at the Lake Chabot club house.

BIG BEAR STABLE NEWS

Virginia McMullen has a new pinto stallion which she keeps at the Big Bear Stables. Flossie LaJeal's thoroughbred colt is nearly two years old. Soon, Toy, Flossie's little bay mare, will be getting a rest while Flossie rides the baby.

Althea D'Orsay has a young Tennessee Walking horse that is learning very fast. Joe Harmeyer recently bought a palomino stallion, named Don, from George Floyd and is stabling him at the Big Bear Stables.

LARI-ETTES ELECT NEW OFFICERS

The Lari-ettes club house was filled with members on Wednesday evening, February 5, on hand to cast their ballots for new officers for 1947. Those elected were: Geneva Menicucci, president; Florence Cosca, vice-president; Virginia Patten, secretary; Tiny Black, treasurer; Elsa Himmelman, Betty Phillips and Albertine Cosca, trustees.

A monthly social was held by the Lari-ettes at the Pinto Ranch club house. Cards and Bingo were the entertainment.

Donny Street is recovering from a broken arm, suffered when he fell from his horse recently. Meredith Harris has been suffering from a severe attack of "flu."

A miscellaneous shower was given by the Lari-ettes on January 15, for Betty Patten, who is now Mrs. Bob Phillips. Betty received many beautiful gifts and a huge cake which was served later with coffee.

JOHNSON FAMILY STABLE

Mr. R. L. Johnson and his daughter, Elaine, of 22 Sonia Avenue, are the owners of three nice pleasure horses that they keep in their own four-box-stall stable. Sandy is a gelding who sports a gorgeous red chestnut coat. Little Oak, a registered thoroughbred, is a sixteen hand, brown jumper, and Bonnie, a brown three-quarter Arabian mare, is now the star of the stable because she is expecting a foal in early summer by the gray Arabian stallion, Dowel.

The Johnson family are fortunate in having over an acre of pasture with a little brook running through the middle of it. Then against the hillside is the barn with spacious hay and grain room and a small, neat building in which to keep the tack.

COMING UP TO DATE WITH DON EVANS STABLES

After almost four years in the army, Don Evans is glad to be a civilian again, and is bending all his efforts toward re-establishing himself hereabouts. Several of his former boarders were among the first to ask for accommodations.

Among these were Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Loeser, who own Golden Blond, better known as "Mommie." She is a top conformation hunter whose latest accomplishments have been the winning of the championship for open hunters at the San Mateo Gymkhana club Hunter Trials in October, and then adding six ribbons to her long string by her performance at the Cow Palace show in November. The Loesers are looking forward to another successful show season this year.

Mr. and Mrs. Philip B. Davis, who acquired Triple Diamond last year, turned him over to Don to board and train six weeks before the Cow Palace show. Triple Diamond won the Reserve Championship for Open Hunters at the San Mateo Gymkhana club Hunter Trials and then took nine ribbons out of ten classes in which he was shown at the Cow Palace. He, too, should be in the top bracket at the shows this year. Mr. and Mrs. Davis also have a beautiful two-year-old filly by Don Juan which is in training at the Wagon Wheel Ranch at Sonoma. She will be ready for Junior classes this year.

Merritt Herrick is another old friend who is back with Don. His good looking chestnut, Rorie O'Rourk, is a favorite at the stable, and his silvina mare, Little Jo, carried him to a sixth place win in the 85-mile Concord-Mt. Diablo trail ride last summer.

Chris Hansen, of Don and Ann Tavern, boards his beautiful palomino stallion, Buddy Boy, at the Don Evans Stable. This horse outdid himself at the shows last season by winning several first and second trophies in various shows and sixth award in the palomino \$1000 Stake at the Cow Palace.

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Chris has much to look forward to with Buddy Boy. The Hansens have a total of eight horses, seven of them are in their private stable. War Meddler, a thoroughbred gelding, is Mr. Hansen's second mount. Mrs. Hansen claims Pale Face Lady, a thoroughbred mare, and the black and white pinto, Fancho. The Hansen's two sons, Tom and Jerry, have their own mounts too. Tom owns a bay quarter horse, named Bourbon. Jerry has his mare, Sweetheart, and a black stud colt, Pepper, by a Remount stallion. Our Surprise, a yearling chestnut filly out of Pale Face Lady, completes the stable.

Another horse at the Don Evans Stable which shows a lot of promise as an open jumper is Star of Siam, a thoroughbred owned by Miss Patricia Morton. He will be ready for some jumper classes this summer. Pat, by the way, is an accomplished artist and, besides having a display booth at the Cow Palace show, she did some swell work on the spot portraits of various horses being shown there.

Don recently acquired a good looking three-quarter thoroughbred colt by Sportswriter which gets better looking every day and has a disposition hard to beat. He will be schooled as soon as weather permits.

The Lyle Loesers just bought a thoroughbred mare that shows every sign of becoming a top flight polo pony, show or otherwise.

Among other boarders at the stable are Mrs. Kisa Beeck with Chiquita. Kisa also has two other horses at her place at Diablo, and is kept mighty busy looking after them and riding here in town too. Dr. and Mrs. Clarence Haas are proud of their gray Arabian, Kem. Virginia Chandler recently bought a morgan mare which she has rechristened Hi-Ball. These two will be a familiar sight on the trails before long. Dolly Nielsen and her Lt. Sparks are known to many. Sparky recently fell down a steep bank when his footing gave way on a narrow road shoulder. He came up without injury but Dolly suffered a hip injury.

Speaking of injuries, George Wagner of the Don and Ann Tavern recently suffered a serious concussion of the ankle when his saddle slipped. He is now back at work and back riding his nice thoroughbred, Tim.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Brown have a real pal in their Peruvian bred horse, Poncho, which they purchased in Mexico City. Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Williams are having many a grand ride on their pretty pair of mares, Lucky and Kitty. Mrs. G. Willard Miller is one of the recent arrivals at the Evans stable with her handsome American saddlebred gelding, Don.

Other boarders include: Commander and Mrs. Carl Bowman, whose typy mare is in training with Don; Mr. Lou Schaackey, whose mare is so well trained that she never needs a halter; Mrs. Don McKechnie, who owns an American saddlebred filly by Don Juan and out of Rhythm Girl that is one of the nicest pleasure horses of her breeding around these parts; Marge Culshaw with Stormy; Bill Williams with Bonnie; Miss Dee Hyatt with Robin, and Doug. Vermillion with Poncho complete the list.

* * *

SEE NOW! The exhibition of equestrian subjects and portraits by Howard E. Smith, A.N.A., at the Graves Gallery, at 540 Sutter Street, San Francisco. Closing date is March 10th!

A HORSE CLINIC FOR YOU

Every Friday evening at 8 p.m., Don Evans conducts what he terms a "horse clinic" at his stable. He started with a nomenclature of the horse's parts, is now covering common ailments and blemishes, and plans to continue with talks by various veterinarians, movies, and probably a few mounted clinics. These meetings are open, not only to stable boarders, but to all horse owners interested in gaining some practical information. Please phone KEllog 2-9936 when you plan to attend.

(Ed. note—Although Don has been back in our hills for many months, this is the first news published on his stable. We hope to keep up on the news from here on.)

* * *

WE APOLOGIZE

In the last issue of the Trail Blazer, we put both of Don Marquis' horses in the Piedmont Stable. Gay Mate was correctly placed there, but Count Lynn makes his home at the Oakland Stables, where Sylvia (King) Dawson has been training him.

(Ed. note: Any time you find an error in the Trail Blazer, please phone us so we may make a correction.)

* * *

HORSE CONTRIBUTES SERVICES AT SCOUT-O-RAMA

There was great excitement within the School String at Cressmount recently. Alex, a favored and wise veteran of the stable, presided at the Horsemanship Booth sponsored by Cressmount at the Scout-O-Rama which was held in the Oakland Auditorium February 20, 21 and 22. Boys of Troop No. 2, Contra Costa Valley, with Scout Master W. H. Glass, worked under supervision of Miss Cress in accumulating material for the booth according to Scout Merit Badge requirements.

Scores of riders, both adult and children, realize the appropriateness of this assignment for Alex. He is ever free with his silent advice to that mobile and uncertain mass on his back; takes care of his riders (the smaller, the more care) while taking care of himself; and forces them to admit he is a pleasure to ride, is capable of accelerating, and can be induced to leave the center of the ring but only after they learn not to abuse his Fillis-like requirements for good riding.

Alex arrived from Modesto via a cow trailer years ago, 1930; he has never missed doing his part in a show or drill; has won many equitation prizes for young riders; his picture appears in the U. S. Physical Education Bulletin as the "ideal school horse"; he figured a solo in the full page color display given Cressmount by the American Magazine; and was prominent in a recent Paramount film of riding.

* * *

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